



# National Weather Service

## Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



April 2001

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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### WISCONSIN, Southeast

#### Ozaukee County

##### Mequon

**05 1500CST 0 3 20K Lightning**

Lightning struck a home, resulting in major structural damage to the chimney and roof, but there was no fire. Three landscape workers were injured when the lightning bolt split from the chimney and struck them while they were loading their truck.

#### WIZ056-062-067

##### Sauk - Iowa - Lafayette

**06 0000CST 0 0 Fog**  
**0600CST**

Dense fog developed overnight...reducing visibilities to 1/8 to 1/4 mile. About a dozen vehicle accidents were reported.

#### Sheboygan County

##### Greenbush to Howards Grove

**07 0128CST 0 0 400K Thunderstorm Wind (G78)**  
**0145CST**

A severe thunderstorm, packing estimated winds gusts to 78 knots (90 mph), raked the northern part of Sheboygan County. A tree fell on and damaged a home near Greenbush. Near the village of Rhine Center a barn was significantly damaged, and one home sustained major damage as its roof was ripped off. Another barn north of Plymouth was damaged. In addition, several farm sheds across the northern part of the county were also destroyed. A total of 4 agricultural buildings had minor damage and 4 had major damage. Several road signs were bent, and one car was damaged by bricks which were ripped off a home's chimney. Near Howards Grove a 30 foot long trailer was rolled over. Several homes also sustained minor roof damage. The County of Sheboygan spent about \$50,000 to clear trees and branches from area roads.

#### WIZ046>047-056>059-062>072

##### Marquette - Green Lake - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Washington - Iowa - Dane - Jefferson - Waukesha - Milwaukee - Lafayette - Green - Rock - Walworth - Racine - Kenosha

**07 0200CST 0 0 Fog**  
**0830CST**

Dense fog developed overnight, reducing visibilities to 1/8 to 1/4 mile. About 3 dozen vehicle accidents were reported. Numerous airline flights were delayed or canceled at local airports.

#### WIZ051>052-060

##### Fond Du Lac - Sheboygan - Ozaukee

**07 0630CST 0 0 Fog**  
**1000CST**

Dense fog developed toward daybreak, reducing visibilities to 1/8 to 1/4 mile. Airplane departures and landings were postponed or canceled. About a dozen vehicle accidents were reported.

#### WIZ046>047-051>052-056>060-062>072

##### Marquette - Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sheboygan - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Washington - Ozaukee - Iowa - Dane - Jefferson - Waukesha - Milwaukee - Lafayette - Green - Rock - Walworth - Racine - Kenosha

**07 1300CST 0 1 High Wind (G57)<sup>M</sup>**  
**1800CST**

Widespread gradient high winds raked south-central and southeast Wisconsin for 5 hours. Maximum winds gusts were in the 50 to 57 knot range (58 to 66 mph). There were numerous reports of felled trees and broken tree branches, roof shingles and rain gutters torn from homes, and chain-link fence damage. The strongest sustained winds and gusts occurred mostly between 1400 and 1600CST. The 57 knot (66 mph) maximum gust was observed at the Milwaukee Betty Brinn Museum. A gust of 55 knots (63 mph) was observed by a severe weather spotter near Dousman (Waukesha). About 49,000 customers lost electricity at one time or another.

A tractor-trailer driver on Interstate 90 near Janesville (Rock Co.) was injured when his truck was blown over. The wind gusts capsized a boat east of the Hoan Bridge in the nearshore waters of Lake Michigan, but the occupants were rescued. In the city of Salem (Kenosha Co.), the high winds pushed a dumpster into a parked law enforcement vehicle which resulted in major damage. In the city of Kenosha (Kenosha Co.), the high winds toppled a 50-foot tall antenna onto a home, resulting in roof and rain gutter damage. Grass fires were noted in the counties of Milwaukee, Washington, Columbia, Walworth, Racine, Waukesha, Green, and Rock. At least 400 acres burned in Walworth County.

Synoptically, deep low pressure moved northeast through central Minnesota to northern Wisconsin. Southwest winds at 850 mb (about 5000 feet AGL) were in the 60 to 65 knot range over eastern Iowa into southern Wisconsin. At 500mb (about 18,000 feet AGL) they were 80 to 90 knots.



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### WISCONSIN, Southeast

#### Green County

2 W New Glarus 08 2130CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

#### Rock County

Janesville 08 2200CST 0 0 Hail (0.75)

Isolated severe thunderstorms generated large hailstones.

#### Sheboygan County

Howards Grove to Random Lake 11 1400CST  
1800CST 0 0 Urban/Sml Stream Fld

Intense rainfall up to 2.10 inches in only 2 hours generated widespread small stream and urban flooding across the eastern half of Sheboygan County. Water depths on low roads ranged from 6 inches to 2 feet. Dozens of motor vehicles stalled or became stranded. Part of State Highway 32 was blocked between 1600 and 1730CST. There were numerous reports of minor basement flooding, but not as damaging as the 1998 flooding, due to mitigation efforts made since that event. In Howards Grove, Pigeon Creek swelled 100 feet out of it's bank to flood nearby fields and backyards. Associated lightning strikes in scattered thunderstorms across south-central and southeast Wisconsin during the afternoon hours left 23,000 customers with electrical power during the afternoon and early evening hours.

#### Rock County

Hanover to Footville 11 1403CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G70)

#### Rock County

4 S Evansville to Edgerton 11 1420CST 0 0 300K Thunderstorm Wind (G60)

#### Dane County

5 SE Stoughton 11 1440CST 0 0 Thunderstorm Wind (G55)

Scattered severe thunderstorms with intense wet microbursts visited parts of south-central Wisconsin. Between Hanover and Footville in Rock County, the powerful winds toppled trees and power poles, damaged about a dozen barns and sheds, took a roof of a storage building, and tore some siding off a residential home. Between Evansville and Edgerton (Rock Co.), other storms toppled more trees and power lines, and near Stoughton (Dane Co.), the winds toppled several trees. About 1200 customers were without electricity at one time or another.

#### WIZ056>057

#### Sauk - Columbia

11 1500CST 0 0 Flood  
16 1200CST

Recent heavy rainfalls caused widespread flooding of creeks, streams, and rivers in Sauk County, and the western part of Columbia County. In the city of Rock Springs (Sauk Co.), 1.80 inches of rain fell on April 11th. In nearby Wisconsin Dells (Columbia Co.), 1.21 inches was measured. This rain fell on top of saturated soils. Fencing around the Mirror Lake dam sluiceway was damaged by the high water levels. Mirror Lake is located southwest of Lake Delton in northeastern Sauk County. In addition, boat docks located at the confluence of Dells Creek and the Wisconsin River in Sauk County were completely under water. Clogged storm sewers in the Lake Delton area caused water to back up and flood local roads. The Blackhawk area of Portage also had flooding, which typically occurs when the Wisconsin River at Portage reaches the 18-foot level. The Wisconsin River crested at 18.12 feet in Portage at 0630CST on April 13, 2001, 1.12 feet above flood stage. This crest can be considered as a 5-year flood. It was still around the 18-foot level until April 16th. A couple lowland roads in Portage were temporarily closed on April 11th during the heavy rains.

#### WIZ058>060-064>065-070 Dodge - Washington - Ozaukee - Jefferson - Waukesha - Walworth

11 1830CST 0 0 High Wind (G58)<sup>M</sup>  
2000CST

Gradient high winds raked parts of southeast Wisconsin for a short period of time. However, there were numerous reports of toppled trees, power poles, and power lines, as well as bent road signs. In addition, on County Trunk H in Jefferson County, a barn sustained



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### WISCONSIN, Southeast

minor to moderate damage. The highest measured wind gust was 58 knots (67 mph) at the home of a severe weather spotter near Dousman (Waukesha Co.). Other maximum gusts were in the 50 to 57 knot range (58 to 66 mph). A gust of 55 knots (63 mph) was recorded at the NWS Forecast Office near Sullivan (Jefferson Co.).

Synoptically, a gravity wave with associated widespread rain showers moved northeast out of Illinois and across southeastern Wisconsin. Some of the strongest gusts occurred when rain showers were observed. The convection most likely contributed to the mixing and transfer of high-momentum air down to the surface. The VAD wind profile at the NWS Office near Sullivan depicted southwest winds of 50 to 60 knots between two and four thousand feet AGL.

#### WIZ056

##### Sauk

12	0145CST 0300CST	0	0	High Wind (G52)
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Gradient high winds pushed over a camper unit near the village of Lake Delton in northeastern Sauk County. There were other reports of toppled trees across the northern part of the county. The high winds were associated with scattered rain showers which led to the mixing and transfer of high-momentum air down to the surface.

#### WIZ046>047

##### Marquette - Green Lake

12	0230CST 0315CST	0	0	High Wind (G52)
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Yet another round of high winds (third for this month for southern Wisconsin) occurred during the overnight hours in a small area of south-central Wisconsin north of Madison. Numerous reports of toppled trees and some damaged power lines were passed on to law enforcement officials. Maximum winds gusts were estimated to be around 52 knots (60 mph) based on tree damage. The high winds were associated with scattered rain showers which led to the mixing and transfer of high-momentum air down to the surface. Wind gusts to 40 to 45 knots (46 to 52 mph) were noted elsewhere across south-central and southeast Wisconsin, where only minor tree limb breakage was reported.

#### WIZ063

##### Dane

16	1900CST 2100CST	0	0	Winter Weather
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Numerous vehicle accidents were noted across Dane County, including several large multiple-vehicle pile-ups. A half-inch of snow fell with temperatures just below freezing. The snow then melted and froze into clear ice on bridges. At least 50 accidents were reported, with a 24-vehicle pile-up occurring on Stoughton Road in Madison, and a 10-car pile-up near the intersection of Stoughton and Cottage Grove Road. Stoughton Road was closed 2.5 hours. At least three people were hospitalized for injuries sustained in the accidents (indirectly-related).

#### Marquette County 3 S Montello

23	1120CST 1220CST	0	0	Thunderstorm Wind (G50)
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#### Green Lake County Princeton

23	1128CST	0	0	Hail (1.00)
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#### Green Lake County Berlin

23	1145CST	0	0	Hail (0.75)
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A cluster of scattered severe thunderstorms rolled through Marquette and Green Lake Counties. Large trees and a power pole were toppled by powerful wind gusts south of Montello (Marquette Co.).